

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

The specification is amended to insert a substitute paragraph in the related applications section to refer to the parent patent.

Claims 19-24 are present in this application. Claims 1-18 were previously canceled and claims 19 and 22-24 are amended by way of the present response. Claims 19, 20, 22 and 23 are rejected under the judicially-created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 12, 13 and 18 of U.S. 6,774,739. Claims 21 and 24 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The Applicants greatly appreciate the finding of claims 21 and 24 to recite patentable subject matter.

The Applicants also greatly appreciate the discussions with Examiner Nguyen where agreement was reached that the claims, as amended above, would be allowable, subject to the double patenting rejection over claims 12, 13 and 18 of the parent patent. The Applicants are concurrently filing a Terminal Disclaimer.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and a favorable decision to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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